GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1025
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
IMPORT OF E-WASTE
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that huge quantity of computer junk imported in the country in the garb of second hand computers is being recycled resulting in serious health hazardous for the people;

(b) if so, whether there are any guidelines for reprocessing of computers waste in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reason therefor; and

(e) the fresh steps taken by the Government to formulate guidelines for disposal of E-Waste in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a) to(d) As per para2.17 of the EXIMPolicy 2002-2007, import of second hand goods is restricted and can be imported only with the permission of DGFT. Electronic waste is also included in List-A and List-B of Schedule-3 of the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1989, as amended in 2003. The import of this waste requires specific permission of the Ministry of Environment & Forests. No permission has been given to any authority or person by the Ministry till date.

(e) International Guidelines are available for reprocessing E-wastes in an environmentally sound manner. The Central Pollution Control Board has been asked to study these and formulate suitable guidelines, keeping in view, inter-alia, the composition of E-waste generated in the country.